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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application Serial No. 09/598,534
Filing Date June 21, 2000
Inventor(s) LaMacchia et al.
Confirmation No. 6764
Group Art Unit 2132
Examiner Gurshman, Grigory
Applicant Microsoft Corporation
Attorney's Docket No. MS1-1876US
[Former Attorney Docket No.: MS146911.1/40062.0065-US-01]

Title: EVIDENCE-BASED SECURITY POLICY MANAGER

REPLY TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION**DATED (MAILED) 08/10/2005****UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111**

To: Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
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INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

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3 In a previous and final Office Action dated 03/01/2005, claims 1-25, 37-45,
4 and 49-56 were examined. Claims 1-25, 37-45, and 49-56 were rejected. A Reply to
5 the 03/01/2005 Office Action was submitted. That Reply included claims 1-25, 37-
6 45, and 49-56, some of which were amended. That Reply was entered after filing an
7 RCE. A non-final Office Action that examined its claims was issued on 08/10/2005.

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9 Thus, this current Reply is responsive to the current and non-final Office
10 Action dated 08/10/2005. In this current Office Action, claims 1-25, 37-45, and 49-
11 56 were examined, and claims 1-25, 37-45, and 49-56 continued to be rejected.

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13 In the interim, an Examiner Interview was conducted on 11/08/2005. A
14 summary of this Examiner Interview is provided below.

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16 In this Reply, no claims are canceled or added. Hence, claims 1-25, 37-45,
17 and 49-56 continue to be pending.
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SUMMARY OF EXAMINER INTERVIEW

On 11/08/2005, an Examiner Interview was conducted between Examiner Grigory Gurshman and Keith W. Saunders (Reg. No. 41,462).

As indicated on the submitted PTOL-413A ("Applicant Initiated Interview Request Form"), the Interview was directed toward all pending claims. The pending claims were rejected under Gong/Sun Microsystems Inc. (WO 99/30217). On the submitted PTOL-413A, Applicants asserted that "Gong does not describe or teach the merging of permission sets."

During the Interview, it is believed that Examiner Gurshman expressed the following: (1) It is probably correct that Gong fails to describe or suggest the merging of permission sets. (2) However, there might be some merging with regard to permissions generally in, for example, Windows® NT®. (3) If the Examiner is able to find any merging of permissions in the prior art, he does not expect it to occur in the context of code groups or code assemblies.